

James Scott Barn (Ray Freeman Barn)
South side of East Main St.
Montour
Gem County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-43

HABS
ID,
23-MONT,
10A -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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10A -

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JAMES SCOTT BARN
(Ray Freeman Barn)
HABS NO. ID-43

Location: South side of E. Main
Montour, Gem County, Idaho
UTM: 11/554150/4863225

Present Owner: United States Department of the Interior

Present Occupant: Leased to local family

Present Use: Barn (houses one cow)

Statement of
Significance: The building is of interest as an example of a
small, recently constructed barn.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Date of erection: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Historical narrative:

This is a vernacular agricultural structure, rather small in scale. It has a triangular hay hood, thus indicating there was once a loft. The building's original purpose was probably to house a few animals. The date of construction and the owner at the time of construction are unknown; however, gambrel roofs were not common in the area until after 1910.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General statement

1. Architectural merit and interest: The building is of interest as an example of a small, recently constructed barn.
2. Condition of fabric: The lean-to is in poor condition; the rest of the barn is in good condition.
3. Summary description: One story, one bay wide and 4 bays long, 21 by 33 feet, rectangular plan, excluding lean-to

at the north side.

Detailed description of exterior

1. Foundations: There are concrete pier footings under the wall sills at the posts.
2. Wall construction: The walls are of vertical board and batten construction. The boards are one inch thick and twelve inches wide, and the battens 5/8-inch thick and from 3 3/4 to 4 inches wide. They rise the full height of the wall on the sides, and rise to eave height at the gable ends, where other pieces rise from that level to the sloping edges of the roof.
3. Structural system: The structural system is a timber frame using sawn dimension lumber and nailed connections. The walls have a 2 inch by 6 inch sill at the base, supported on pier footing, 6-inch square posts, a double 2 inch by 6 inch top plate, and a 2 inch by 6 inch girt at mid height in the wall. The larger dimension of the girt is vertical. The roof is constructed of 2-inch by 6-inch rafters at 36 inches on centers, and these have nailed on splices at the ridge and at the elbow of the gambrel. There are two steel cables crossing the barn to connect the wall plates of the opposite sides to resist the outward thrust of the roof.
4. Porches: There is a lean-to shed at the north side, with log posts and rough dimension lumber framing the roof. There is evidence of a now-missing gable-roofed shelter projecting above the south door.
5. Openings, doorways and doors: The north wall has two doors and the south wall has one door. These doors are constructed of boards and battens on Z cleats, nailed with wire nails. The east wall has a high double door of boards and battens with horizontal cleats. A smaller personnel door has been cut into one of the leaves of this large door, and it has Z cleats.
6. Openings, windows: The east end of the building above the double door is open. It does not appear to have had any door to close it.
7. Roof, shape, covering: The roof is of gambrel shape covered with corrugated iron on stripping. The roof of the lean-to is a shed type roof, also of corrugated iron on stripping. There is a metal cap along the ridge.
8. Roof, eaves: The corrugated iron projects a few inches to form the eaves. At the east end of the barn, the gable end projects to form a triangular shape in plan above the large opening in the east gable end.

9. Roof, dormers, cupolas, towers: None

Detailed description of interior

1. Floor plan: The building has one rectangular interior space. The lean-to extends along approximately the east two-thirds of the north wall.
2. Stairways: None
3. Flooring: The rear (west) bay and a half has 2-inch by 12-inch plank flooring on sleepers 24 inches on center. The sleepers run across the barn and the flooring the length of the barn. The rest of the floor is of earth.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: None
5. Doorways and doors: None
6. Interior trim: There is a hay bin on the rear (west) wall at the south corner.
7. Hardware: Conventional
8. Mechanical and electrical equipment: An overhead rail at the ridge of the roof runs almost the full length of the barn.

Site and surroundings

1. Orientation and general setting: The end of the barn having the double door faces east, and the ridge of the roof runs east-west. The barn is in a field which is entered from its north side, by means of Main Street, which passes further to the west between the Farmers' and Stockgrowers' Bank and the Idaho Northern Railroad House (Delores Hill House). The ground is flat.
2. Historic landscape design: None
3. Outbuildings: None

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by Dennett, Muessig & Associates, Iowa City, Iowa, in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region. It fulfills the Bureau of Reclamation's obligations under a memorandum of agreement between the Bureau, the State of Idaho, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR 800. The structure was photo-

graphed, measured, and drawn March - September, 1979 by Sarah J. Dennett and Hans Muessig, Project Supervisors; Wesley I Shank, Project Architectural Historian/Historical Architect, (Iowa State University); Martha H. Bowers, Project Historian; Robert A. Ryan, Project Photographer; and Philipp Muessig, Project Assistant.

APPENDIX

CHAIN OF TITLE: JAMES SCOTT BARN

Description: Lots 16, 17, 18, Exc. W. 40', original Montour
townsite, T7N R1E, Boise Meridian

Reference: Recorder's Office, Gem County Courthouse, Emmett, Idaho

- 1914 Deed 27 April 1914
Recorded 29 December 1914
Book A. Deeds, p. 299
E. H. Dewey, Trustee
to
Anna Wetzell
- 1951 Quit Claim Deed 21 December 1951
Recorded 8 April 1952
Book 35 Deeds, #66058
Noah Bechtel & Carrie T. Bechtel
to
J. R. Freeman & Myra Freeman
- 1952 Quiet Title 13 February 1952
Case #2299
J. R. Freeman and Myra Freeman
Vs.
Anna Wetzell and John Doe Wetzell
- 1972 Deed 24 January 1972
Recorded 10 February 1972
Deed Instrument #103900
John R. Freeman & Myra Freeman
to
Nelson R. Mabee & Marjorie Mabee
- 1970 Deed 29 December 1970
Recorded 3 November 1977
Deed Instrument # 121983
Nelson R. Mabee & Marjorie Mabee
to
D. E. Shoemaker & Dortha Shoemaker

Continued - Chain of Title, James Scott Barn

1974 Deed 23 April 1974
Recorded 19 October 1977
Deed Instrument #121770
D. E. Shoemaker & Dortha Shoemaker
to
J. E. Thornton & Donna Thornton

1977 Deed 6 June 1977
Recorded 27 June 1977
Deed Instrument #120529
John E. Thornton & Donna Thornton; Nelson R. Mabee &
Marjorie Mabee; Donald E. Shoemaker & Dortha
Shoemaker
to
U. S. A.

